

HIV/AIDS Profile: Nepal

Demographic Indicators

Population (1,000s)	24,702	Growth Rate (%)	2.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000)		Life Expectancy	
Both Sexes	76	Both Sexes	58
Male	74	Male	58
Female	77	Female	57
Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000)	34	Crude Death Rate (per 1,000)	10
Percent Urban	11	Total Fertility Rate	4.7
Note: Above indicators are for 2000.			

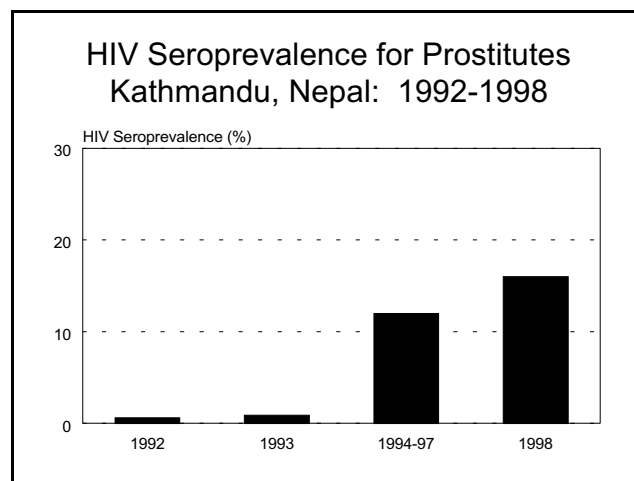
Estimated % of adults living with HIV/AIDS, end 1999	0.3 %		
Cumulative AIDS rate (per 1,000) as of 8/31/98	0.01		
Cumulative AIDS cases as of 8/31/98	225		
Sources: U.S. Census Bureau, Population Reference Bureau, UNAIDS, World Health Organization.			

Epidemiological Data

Epidemic State: Concentrated

The HIV epidemic in Nepal is characterized by high prevalence among high-risk groups in Kathmandu. By 1997, half of IV drug users in the capital were infected. Among low-risk populations, there was no evidence of infection in the early to mid 1990s.

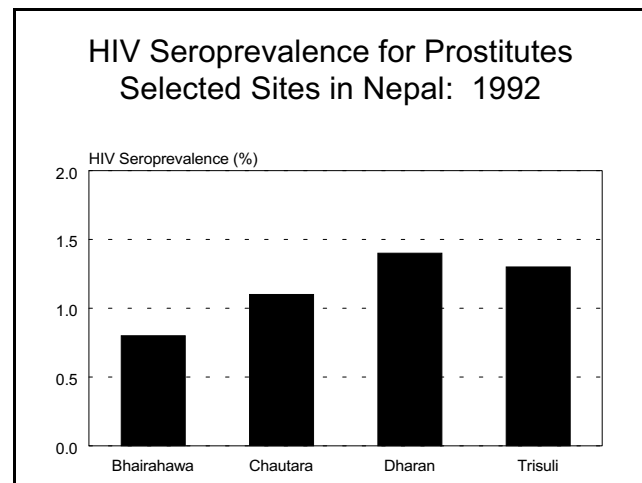
- HIV seroprevalence data from Kathmandu, the capital, showed an increasingly severe epidemic among prostitutes. In 1992, 1 percent were HIV positive; in 1998, 16 percent of street prostitutes tested positive.



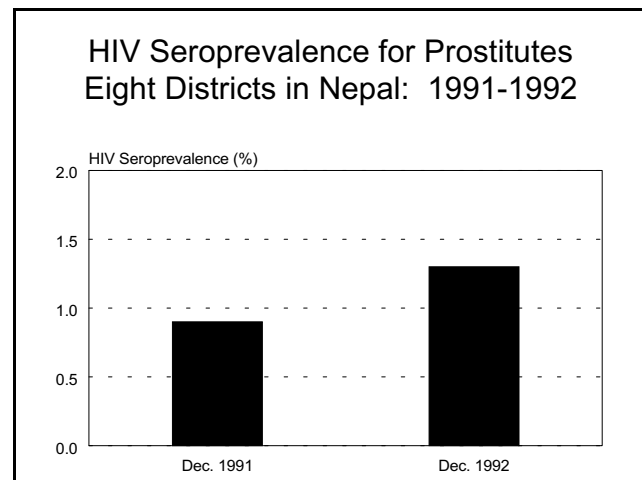
Source: International Programs Center, Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Data Base, June 2000.

Nepal

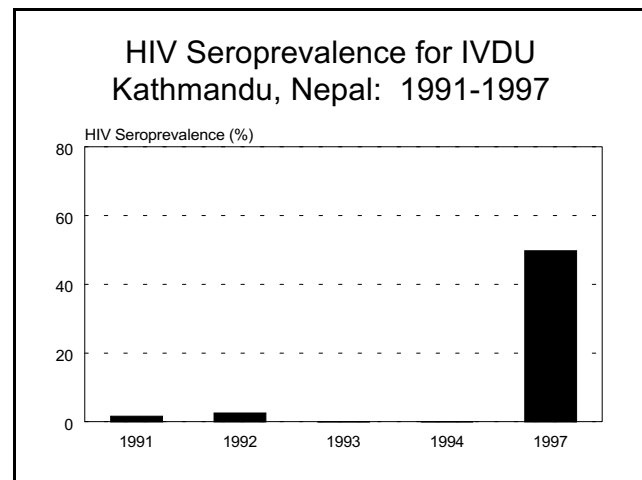
- HIV prevalence among prostitutes hovered around 1 percent in 1992 in four cities in Nepal, Bhairahawa, Chautara, Dharan, and Trisuli, according to sentinel surveillance data. There was no evidence of infection in Dhangadhi, Nepalgunj, and Pokhara.



- In December 1992 in eight districts, Banke, Dhanusha, Kailali, Kathmandu, Nywakot, Morang, Rupendhi, and Sindhupalchok, HIV seroprevalence among prostitutes was slightly over 1 percent.

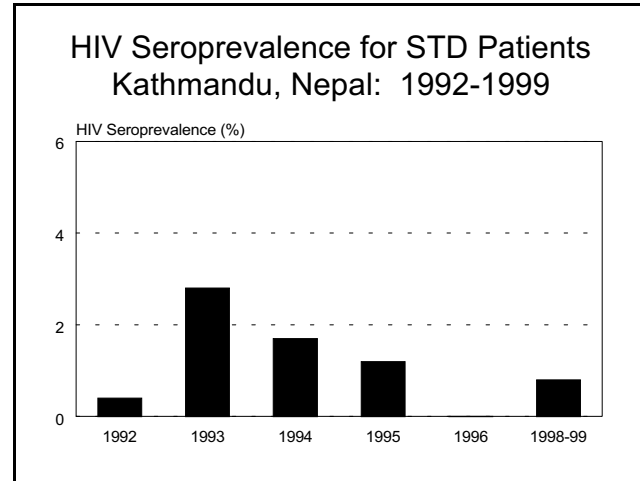


- HIV seroprevalence among injecting drug users skyrocketed during the 1990s in Kathmandu. In 1991, 2 percent of users tested were infected. By 1997, 50 percent were HIV positive.

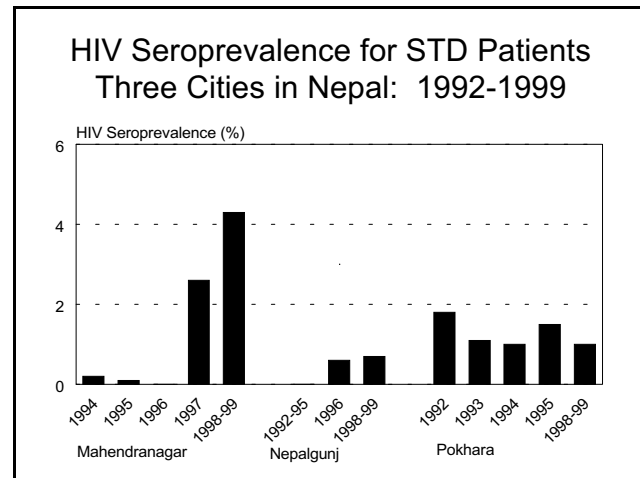


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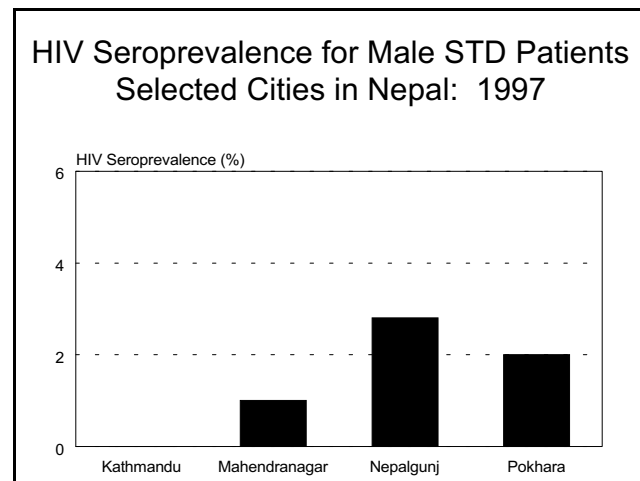
- Sentinel surveillance of STD patients seen at Bir Hospital in Kathmandu showed that HIV seroprevalence fluctuated between no evidence of infection in 1996 to 3 percent in 1993.



- Trends in HIV seroprevalence among STD patients varied by location in the 1990s. In Mahendranagar, there was a clear trend upward in HIV infection rates. In Nepalgunj, the situation was fairly static between 1996 and 1999, with less than 1 percent infected. There was no evidence of infection during 1992-95. In Pokhara, HIV prevalence fluctuated throughout the 1990s, ranging from 1 to 2 percent.

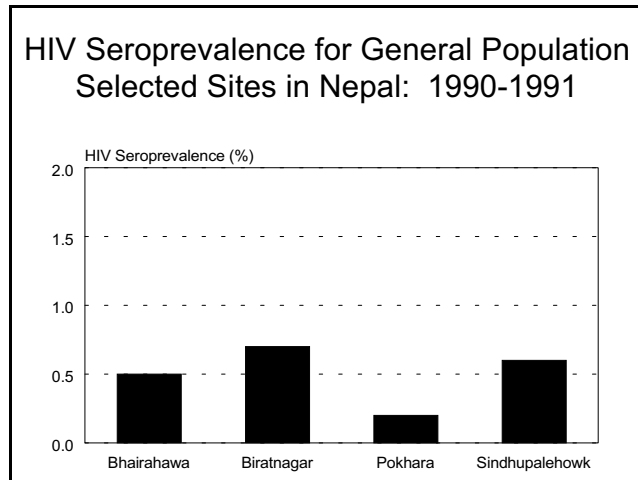


- HIV seroprevalence among male STD patients in selected cities in Nepal in 1997 ranged from no evidence of infection in Kathmandu to 3 percent in Nepalgunj. This data was taken from the sentinel surveillance system instituted in 1991.



Nepal

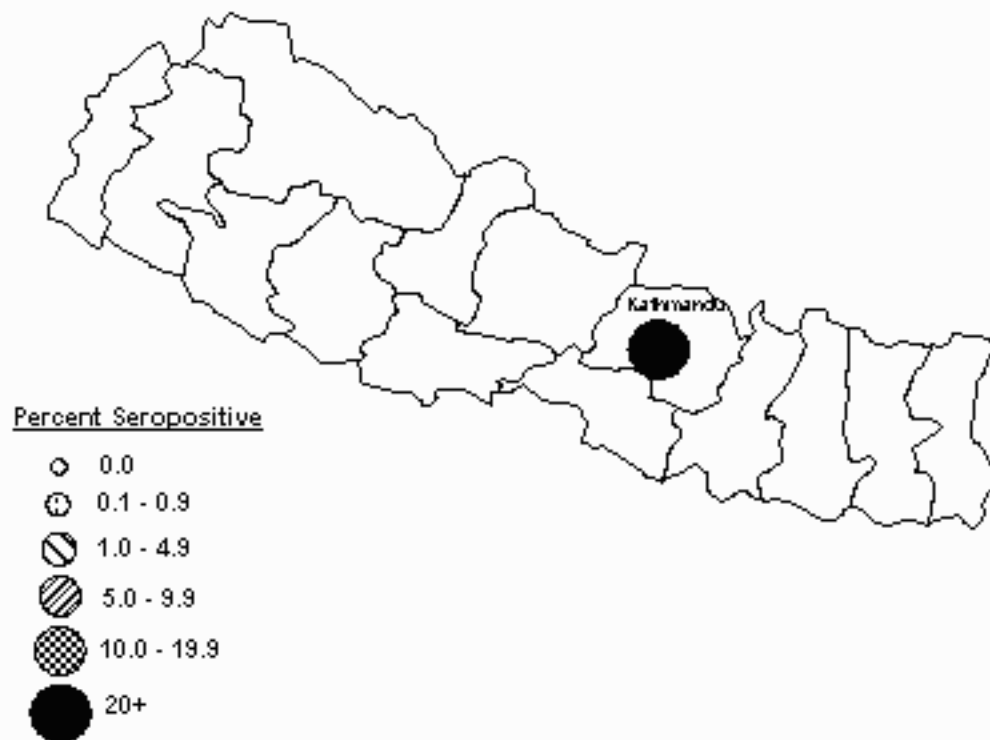
- Healthy, asymptomatic people from nine sentinel sites in Nepal were tested for HIV from May 1990 through May 1991. HIV seroprevalence levels were all less than 1 percent. No evidence of infection was found in Kathmandu, Dhangadhi, Mahendranagar, Nepalgunj, and Nuwakot.



Sentinel surveillance carried out among pregnant women in 1992 in eight districts of Nepal, including Kathmandu, uncovered no evidence of HIV infection. A study carried out during 1992-1995 among blood donors in an unspecified area of Nepal found no evidence of HIV infection either. Two-thirds of donors tested were replacement donors, one-third were voluntary donors.

Seroprevalence of HIV-1 for IV Drug Users

Nepal: 1997



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